These phenomena exhibit the character of God under an aspect in which many are unwilling to contemplate it. Other phenomena show that God's character comes to be thus exhibited, because of the relation in which he stands to man.

3. The unwearied care which God exercises over this world is a theme on which the piously-disposed mind delights to dwell It feels a peculiar interest in tracing the wisdom and goodness of God in ordaining and overruling all things ; and rejoices to discover that, while controlling and superintending the grand affairs of nations and of worlds, he is also providing for the meanest of the wants of the most insignificant of his creatures. It is manifest that the greatest events are not beyond his control ; and yet that these which may seem the least are n<*t beneath his notice.

In seeming contradiction to all this superintending care, there are circumstances which look as if God had abandoned this world to itself, and ceased to take any oversight of it. Near though God may seem, he is felt to be at an infinite d[redacted]is[redacted]ft: nice. Man cannot reach him by any of his struggles, lie cannot rise to him by his highest aspirations. These heavens, \vhen lie looks up to them, seem to be covered with, a perpetual cloud. There must be something coming between, when the beams of God's love, shining perpetually on all holy creatures, are obstructed in regard to man. That intervening cloud cannot come from the heavens, which it merely hides *from* our eyes, ami must rise up therefore from the damps of this earth. In short, it seems as if the good God had been justly offended, and offended with something in the character of man.

To determine what this is, we must now look to the character of man in its relation to God.

4. In looking to the nature of man, wo find that there is an Invariable characteristic by which he is distinguiKlunl, and that

is a law in the heart testifying in behalf of what is good, This
is of the nature of a fundamental principle. It may be ob-
scured or perverted, but cannot be extinguished or destroyed.
But this same moral nature which gives its testimony in behalf
of God, gives its testimony nguinst man. That which God
indicates in l^is dealings towards man, man shown that ho fecln
by his conduct towards God God shows that he is offended
with something, and man shows what thin *m* by taking guilt to